

7-7285

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PASADENA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 16, 1955

Mr. Allen Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

We are all delighted that you have accepted our invitation to participate in the Caltech dinner to be held at the University Club in New York on January 31, 1956. This letter is to give you some background of the circumstances which have led to the planning of this dinner.

Caltech organized some years ago a group of industrial companies, now numbering nearly forty, known as the Industrial Associates. These companies give substantial financial support for our general program of education and research in return for which the Institute undertakes to be helpful to these companies in a variety of ways, principally through supplying them with information and giving technical advice.

As a part of the Industrial Associates program, there is planned for 1956 a series of conferences at the various company headquarters on the general subject of the world's resources. The intention is to give some examination to all of the major resources on which human life depends -- agricultural, mineral, energy, water, manpower, technological, industrial, etc. These meetings will each consume half a day or more and are intended to be addressed to the top management of the companies. The attempt is to take a long-range view relating to problems of population growth, to the depletion of mineral resources, the rising energy and food requirements and the rising need for technical manpower.

As a sort of climax to this series of meetings, we are arranging the dinner on January 31. We are inviting the board chairmen and the presidents of each of the various eastern participating companies plus not more than three other representatives of each company. There are fifteen or twenty companies eligible to send representatives, including The Texas Company, Union Carbide and Carbon, General Motors and others. The total attendance however will probably not exceed about fifty individuals, so there should be a chance for an informal atmosphere and some discussion.

It was our thought that at this dinner we would address ourselves to the subject of the technological resources of the free world and the communist bloc. We use the term "technological" rather broadly, however, to include such information as would seem to be pertinent and as is available on natural resources, general manpower resources and utilization, the status of pure and applied scientific enterprises, the nature and extent of

37658

Mr. Allen Dulles

December 16, 1955

-2-

industrialization with especial attention to industrial research and development, and research and development in the various fields of national defense.

Obviously, we cannot cover in detail all of these subjects and we shall have to pick out a few highlights which seem especially significant or on which we have special information. I have purposely painted the picture rather broad so that you can determine for yourself which particular items of the situation in the communist bloc of nations you think it most useful and appropriate to report on.

My own present plan is to sketch in broadly the scientific resources of the United States in terms of budgets, manpower, capital facilities, etc. and to discuss some of the problems facing an expansion of our scientific resources, particularly in the educational fields.

I trust all of this story will be useful to you in painting a background for this dinner occasion, but if there are other special questions which occur to you I should, of course, be delighted to answer them.

The dinner will be quite informal. We will meet for cocktails at the University Club on the seventh floor (Fifth Avenue and 54th Street) at 6:15 p.m. and will plan on sitting down to dinner at 7 p.m.

// If you should wish to have any slides or charts shown, please let us know so that the necessary mechanical arrangements can be made for you.

As I indicated over the telephone, we are delighted with your suggestion to have Dr. Peter Scoville of your staff come also as our guest and to participate in the discussion in any way which you desire.

Needless to say, the California Institute of Technology will be happy to reimburse both of you for your trouble and expenses in coming to New York.

Sincerely,



L. A. DuBridge
President

LAD:il